price shops were opened in Andhra Pradesh between the period 1-4-1984 to 30-6-1984. The district-wise breakup of the new fair price shops opened is not maintained at the Central level.

(b) Guidelines have been issued to all the States/Union Territories, including Andhra Pradesh, to expand the Public Distribution System by opening new fair price shops, keeping in view specially the need to cover rural remote and inaccessible areas inhabited by vulnerable section of society.

Payment of demurrage by the CIL to Railways

1649. SHRI KALYAN ROY:
SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1310 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th May, 1984 and state:

(a) whether the coal companies have paid demurrage of Rs. 9.73 crores to the Railways;

(b) if so, what are the details of the payment made;

(c) whether the matter has been settled with the CIL; if so, what are the terms of settlement and when it was reached; and

(d) what is the amount of fresh demurrage bill submitted to the CIL?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Coal wagons left unloaded in mines of CIL

1650. SHRI KALYAN ROY:
SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the number of coal wagons left behind and drawn empty per day in 1983-84 in comparison to 1981-82 and 1982-83; if so, what are tre details thereof;

(b) whether the matter has been taken up with the CIL authorities; if so, what is their reaction; and

(c) what is the number of wagons left behind unloaded in various CIL coal mines in April, May and June, 1984 and the corresponding figures in 1983 and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. The details for CIL only are as under:—

(In terms of daily average 4-wheelers)

Year	Wagons left behind	Wagons drawn empty
1981-82 . . .	860	75
1982-83 . . .	1430	112
1983-84 . . .	1448	233

(b) The matter has been taken up with the concerned coal companies at the divisional and zonal level and with the Department of Coal at the Ministry level. It has also been brought to the notice of Cabinet Secretariat's Coordination Cell and a weekly meeting is now taken by the Secretary (Coordination) to tackle this problem, amongst others, pertaining to movement of coal by rail.

(c) Railways do not maintain mine-wise information regarding coal loading and wagons left-behind. The figures are maintained railway division-wise and coal field-wise. The comparative information of daily average number of wagons left behind un-loaded by CIL in April, May and June, 1983 and 1984 are indicated below which shows some improvement.

(*Daily average 4-wheelers*)

Field	April		May		June	
	1983	1984	1983	1984	1983	1984
Asansol	164	164	229	215	320	206
Dhanbad	429	223	451	257	431	133
Karanpura	175	204	190	185	153	167
Singrauli	7	15	12	42	11	14
Adra	388	270	457	276	346	194
C.I.C.	696	510	834	236	250	411
Talcher	23	24	19	10	23	–
Pench (NG)	6	3	5	1	9	2
Pench (BG)	4	6	–	4	1	1
Chanda	8	4	–	12	8	8
Umrer	–	–	–	1	–	3
N.F. Rly.	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	1900	1433	2197	1239	1552	1399

Under-loading of coal in wagons

1651. SHRI KALYAN ROY:
SHRI SANKAR PRASAD MITRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the allegations of under-loading and improper loading of coal in wagons supplied to various coal mines under the Coal India Limited and also to the delay in loading thereof;

(b) whether the matter has been taken up with the Coal India Limited authorities; if so, what are the results thereof; and

(c) what is the amount of demurrage paid by the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries to the Railways for not-loading of coal in wagons, etc. in 1982, 1983 and 1984 separately?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Responsibility for under-loading of coal being that of collieries, the parties have been advised to take up the matter with the Coal India Ltd. For detention of wagons by the collieries, demurrage charges are raised and realised from the collieries as per rules.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Conversion of Muzafferpur-Narkatiaganj M.G. line

1652. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to convert Muzafffarpur-Narkatiaganj metre gauge line in Bihar to broad gauge; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Not at present, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.